



**ARIZONA STATE SENATE**  
*Fifty-Third Legislature, First Regular Session*

FACT SHEET FOR S.B. 1061

universities; tuition; rates; fees

Purpose

Caps increases to tuition and mandatory fees for resident undergraduate students at two percent annually and establishes a four-year pledge program for resident undergraduate students.

Background

The Arizona Board of Regents (ABOR) is the governing board for the state's three public universities: Arizona State University (ASU), Northern Arizona University (NAU) and University of Arizona (UA). One of ABOR's duties includes fixing tuition and fees to be charged and differentiated between institutions and between residents, nonresidents, undergraduate students, graduate students, students from foreign countries and students who have earned credit hours in excess of the credit hour threshold.

Statute requires ABOR to adopt rules that govern its tuition and fee setting process that include the following: 1) at least one public hearing at each university; 2) publication of the notice of public hearing at least 10 days before the hearing in a newspaper of general circulation in the appropriate counties; 3) public disclosure by each university of any proposed increases in tuition or fees at least 10 days before the public hearing; and 4) final board action on tuition and fees shall be taken by roll call vote. Fees set by individual universities that do not require ABOR approval are exempted from these procedural requirements ([A.R.S. § 15-1626](#)).

According to ABOR, tuition and mandatory fees for new undergraduate resident students at the three universities in the 2016-2017 school year are: 1) \$10,640 at ASU; 2) \$10,764 at NAU; and 3) \$11,769 at UA.

There is no anticipated fiscal impact to the state General Fund associated with this legislation.

Provisions

1. Directs ABOR to adopt rules for the following:
  - a) beginning in the 2017-2018 school year, resident undergraduate tuition and mandatory fees that do not exceed the amount set for the 2016-2017 school year, except that ABOR may approve a maximum increase of 2 percent per school year; and
  - b) payment by a resident undergraduate student of the same amount for four consecutive years in tuition and mandatory fees as that student originally paid during the first year at that university.

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2. Requires all fee increases set by individual universities to receive approval from ABOR following the procedures currently outlined in statute.
3. Prohibits universities from using tuition or fee revenue to fund or support a separate foundation or nonprofit organization.
4. Makes technical and conforming changes.
5. Becomes effective on the general effective date.

Prepared by Senate Research

January 23, 2017

CB/jn